



## European Organic Verification Program Handler and Processor Additional Requirements

In order to comply with the WSDA European Organic Verification Program (EOVP), the following requirements must be met *in addition to* the standards set forth by the National Organic Program. These additional requirements are adapted from the European Council Regulation No. 2092/91 (EEC 2092/91) and the International Federation of Organic Agricultural Movements Basic Standards (IFOAM).

A copy of the European Regulation (EEC 2092/91) can be found at <http://www.defra.gov.uk/farm/organic/imports/index.htm>. A copy of the IFOAM Basic Standards can be found at <http://www.ifoam.org/standard/norms/cover.html>. If you would like a hard copy of these regulations mailed to you, please contact our office at (360) 902-1805, FAX (360) 902-2087, or email [organic@agr.wa.gov](mailto:organic@agr.wa.gov).

### A. Scope

1. Handlers and processors that wish to participate in the European program must apply for European Organic Verification Program certification when applying for National Organic Program certification or during the yearly renewal process.
2. Handlers and processors that wish to participate in the European program are not required to enter as an entire operation. Individual products may be certified under the European program for handling and processing operations.
3. Handlers and processors who wish to have products certified under the European program must keep records regarding the product's compliance with the ***European Organic Verification Program Production Additional Requirements, and the Handling and Processing Additional Requirements***, as well as compliance with the National Organic Program.
4. Organic products certified under the European program must be protected from commingling with organic products certified for domestic sales during handling, processing and storage.

### B. Post Harvest Materials

1. The use of chlorine materials, hydrogen peroxide and ozone are *only* permitted for sterilization of food bearing surfaces and *must* be rinsed off from contact surfaces before handling or processing begins for products certified under the European program. (EEC 2092/91 Annex VI Section B, IFOAM 6.3.1)
2. Post harvest use of chlorine materials (including, but not limited to Calcium hypochlorite, Chlorine dioxide, and Sodium hypochlorite) is ***prohibited for use on products certified under the European program***. Chlorine materials must not be added to any food contact water or rinse solutions when handling or processing EU export products. (EEC 2092/91 Annex VI Section B, IFOAM 6.3.1)
3. Sodium silicate, sodium sulphate, and lignin sulfonate for floating tree fruit, or any other material not included in EEC 2092/91 Annex II or Annex VI, ***are prohibited for use with products certified under the European Program***. (EEC 2092/91 Annex II and VI Section B)

### C. Ingredients and Processing Aids

1. All ingredients must be organic except for those that are included in the European Organic Verification Program Allowed Ingredient and Processing Aid List – AGR 2206. (EEC 2092/91 Article 5 and Annex VI)
2. All ingredients and processing aids shall be traced back one step to verify that they are not derived from genetically modified organisms. (IFOAM 2.3.5)
3. All processing aids used in processed products must be included in the European Organic Verification Program Allowed Ingredient and Processing Aid List – AGR 2206. (EEC 2092/91 Article 5 and Annex VI, IFOAM Appendix 4)

### D. Processing Methods

1. Extraction techniques for products, or ingredients in processed products, must only utilize water, ethanol, plant and animal oils, vinegar, carbon dioxide, or nitrogen. These materials must be food grade quality. (IFOAM 6.3.2)



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2. Filtration techniques for organic products, or ingredients in processed products, must not utilize asbestos, or any other substance that may contaminate the product, as a filter. (IFOAM 6.3.4, NOP 205.272)

### E. Waste Management and Nutrient Recycling

1. Facilities must return nutrients, organic matter, and other resources through recycling of waste materials where applicable. (IFOAM 2.2.3)

### F. Labeling of Organic Products (EEC 2092/91 Article 5, IFOAM Chapter 7)

1. Copies of all labels for European program organic products must be submitted for approval by WSDA prior to use.
2. Organic products must be clearly identified as an "organic" product on both retail and wholesale containers. (IFOAM 6.1.2)
3. The person or company legally responsible for the handling or processing of the product must be identified on the label. (IFOAM 7.1.1)
4. All ingredients in a multi-ingredient processed product must be listed by their full names in the ingredient statement in order of their weight percentage. (IFOAM 7.1.4)
5. Organic products may not be labeled as GMO-free on product labels. Any reference to genetic engineering on product labels shall be limited to the production and processing methods themselves being GMO-free. (IFOAM 7.1.7)
6. Labels for products that consist of 70-95% certified organic ingredients *must* indicate the percentage of organic ingredients in the product on the principal display panel. (EEC 2092/91 Article 5, IFOAM 7.1.3)
  - a. The percentage statement must read "X% of the agricultural ingredients were produced in accordance with the rules of organic production."
  - b. If an indication that the product is covered by the certification body is used, it must be close to the above percentage statement.

### G. Social Justice (IFOAM 8.1)

1. Operations employing ten or more persons must maintain a written policy on labor that addresses the requirements of this section.
2. Operations must comply with state and federal labor laws. These laws include, but are not limited to:
  - The National Labor Relations Act
  - Fair Labor Standards Act/ Child Labor
3. Under Washington State law, effective January 1, 2004, the minimum wage is \$7.16 per hour. Fourteen- and 15-year-old minors may be paid \$6.09 per hour. Although there are some exemptions, most workers must be paid the minimum wage for all "hours worked" as required by state law. "Hours worked" includes preparation time, opening and closing the business, company travel, and required meetings and training. Any time spent by an employee in the performance of these duties must be recorded and paid.